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JOSEPH A. JACHIMCZYK, M.D., J.D.
FORENSIC PATHOLOGIST
ATTORNEY AT LAW
CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER



228-8311
EXT. 671 (DAY)
EXT. 212 (NIGHT)

OFFICE OF THE MEDICAL EXAMINER
OF HARRIS COUNTY

HARRIS COUNTY COURT HOUSE
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77002

AUTOPSY REPORT

CASE 73 - 3332

August 9, 1973

PATHOLOGICAL DIAGNOSIS ON THE BODY
OF

James Stanton Dreymala
5411 Laurel Creek
Houston, Texas

Asphyxia due to strangulation.

OPINION

It is our opinion that the decedent, James Stanton Dreymala, came to his death as a result of asphyxia due to strangulation, Homicide.

It is our further opinion that death occurred on or about August 4, 1973.

COMMENT: In view of the dental and latent print comparison by N. L. LeBlanc, Houston Police Department, it is our opinion, based upon a reasonable medical probability, these are the remains of James Stanton Dreymala. The father was notified by Detective Ned Newman, a friend of the family on August 14, 1973.


Joseph A. Jachimczyk, M.D., J.D.
Chief Medical Examiner

(See Companion Cases 73 - 3333, 73-3334, 73-3335, 73-3336, 73-3337, 73-3338, 73-3339, 73-3347, 73-3348, 73-3349, 73-3350, 73-3353, 73-3354, 73-3355, 73-3356 and 73-3357).

POSTMORTEM EXAMINATION ON THE BODY OF

James Stanton Dreymla
5411 Laurel Creek
Houston, Texas

HISTORY: The body of this unidentified young male teenager (Unknown #1) was one of the eight bodies recovered at 4500 Silverbell Street, Houston, Texas, Stall #11, between 6:00 p.m. and midnight on August 8, 1973. (See Companion Cases 73-3333, 73-3334, 73-3335, 73-3336, 73-3337, 73-3338, 73-3339, 73-3347, 73-3348, 73-3349, 73-3350, 73-3353, 73-3354, 73-3355, 73-3356 and 73-3357).

AUTOPSY: The autopsy was performed by Chief Medical Examiner Joseph A. Jachimczyk, M.D., assisted by Assistant Medical Examiner Ethel E. Erickson, M.D., and Dr. Paul G. Stimson, beginning at 3:40 p.m. on August 9, 1973, in the Harris County Morgue.

EXTERNAL APPEARANCE: The body was that of a decomposing Caucasian teenage male, measuring 72 inches in length and weighing 125 pounds and wrapped in plastic drop cloth with white adhesive tape around the ankles and feet and around the neck. Around the abdomen and the knees, there was adhesive tape stain. There was marked skin discoloration with postmortem tissue gas formation and skin slippage, more marked in the upper half of the body than in the lower extremities. There was no rigor mortis. The head was symmetrical and covered with red-brown hair, measuring 9 inches in length at the crown. The eyes were protruding. The color of the eyes was not discernible. The nose was intact. The face was swollen, bloated and distorted. The tongue protruded 1-1/2 inches beyond the tooth margin. The teeth were in a good condition. The neck was short, loose and thick. There was a deep depression groove, completely encircling the neck, measuring 1/2 inch in width and extending up to 1/4 inch in depth. The thorax was symmetrical. The abdomen was flat. There were no abdominal scars. The external genitalia were those of the adult uncircumcised male-type. Both testes were palpable within the scrotum. The scrotal sac was distended with postmortem gas. The upper extremities were intact. There was a crude tattoo of a small cross with two small oblique lines at the superior end located over the outer aspect of the lower third of the right upper arm. There was prominent wrinkling of the skin of both hands. Fingerprints were obtainable. The lower extremities were intact. Each foot measured

9-3/4 inches. There was postmortem discoloration. There was a 1-plus bilateral, pretibial and ankle pitting edema. The back was intact, except for the postmortem skin slippage.

Complete body X-rays did not reveal any radio-opaque objects.

INTERNAL EXAMINATION: Section: The body was opened with the usual Y-shaped incision. There was 3/4 inch of yellow adipose tissue in the mid line. The pleural cavities were empty. The abdominal cavity appeared as usual. There was autolysis of all of the tissues.

HEART: The heart weighed 215 grams. The myocardium was flabby. The coronary arteries were delicate and patent. On cut surfaces, the myocardium was autolyzed, but there were no scars. The valve orifices were proportionate and the valve leaflets were delicate. The coronary ostia were widely patent.

LUNGS: The lungs together weighed 820 grams. The lining of the trachea and bronchi was red-brown. The lung tissue was red-brown, wet, and boggy.

LIVER: The liver weighed 1030 grams. The gallbladder contained 5 milliliters of bile. The wall of the gallbladder was autolyzed. The cut surfaces of the liver were quite autolyzed, brown and slightly congested.

Pancreas: The pancreas was autolyzed.

Adrenals: The adrenals were markedly autolyzed.

SPLEEN: The spleen weighed 115 grams. It was extremely flabby and autolyzed.

GENITOURINARY TRACT: The kidneys together weighed 230 grams. The capsules stripped with ease, revealing a smooth, congested surface. The cut surfaces were congested and autolyzed. The urinary bladder was empty. The testes were of usual size, but autolyzed.

GASTROINTESTINAL TRACT: The esophagus was lined by a gray membrane. The stomach was empty. The gastric mucosa was autolyzed. The appendix was present at the tip of the cecum.

ORGANS OF THE NECK: The hyoid bone was fractured in the middle and the styloid processes of the cricothyroid were fractured, bilaterally. The thyroid cartilage was fractured in the center. There was conspicuous hemorrhage in the strap muscles in the neck and also into the inner side of the epiglottis and larynx.

HEAD: The scalp was reflected in the usual coronal fashion. There were no abnormalities of the scalp or skull. The brain weighed 1300 grams. The usual pattern was completely obliterated by extensive autolysis.

DENTAL EXAMINATION

Charting of the mandible and maxilla, beginning in the upper right, number 1, consecutively across in the upper left third molar, number 16, beginning in the lower left, number 17, across to number 32, the universal system. There was an occlusal amalgam in the lower right first molar (tooth #30). The lower left and right third molars were in their crypts unerupted. The upper arch was V-form in shape.

Checking with the records of Dr. B. E. Bishop, telephone number 479-2117, there was an occlusal filling in the lower right first molar, which was done on August 8, 1970. This matched that of the decedent.



P. G. Stimson, D.D.S., M.S.

INVESTIGATOR'S REPORT

Autopsy

Investigator: L. C. Kelly

~~View~~

Case No. 73 - 3332

Decedent: James Stanton Dreymla Race W Sex M Age 13

Address: 5411 Laurel Creek, Houston, Texas

Death: FOUND August 8, 1973 Approx. Time 6:00 ~~AM~~
P.M.

Place of Death: 4500 Silverbell Street, Houston, Texas, Stall #11

Place of Inquest: 4500 Silverbell Street, Houston, Texas, Stall #11

Date and Time of Inquest: August 8, 1973 6:30 ~~AM~~
P.M.

Location, Position, and Surroundings of Body:

The decedent was lying in grave #1, wrapped in plastic, lying on his right side.

Clothing:

There was no clothing involved.

Information:

This was a related case to Medical Legal Case 73 - 3329.

(See Companion Cases 73 - 3333, 73-3334, 73-3335, 73-3336, 73-3337, 73-3338, 73-3339, 73-3347, 73-3348, 73-3349, 73-3350, 73-3353, 73-3354, 73-3355, 73-3356 and 73-3357).

L.C. Kelly
L. C. Kelly *NN*

Property:

There was no property involved.

Transferred to Morgue by: Bob Lee Funeral Home, Houston, Texas

Funeral Home Conducting Service: Forest Park Funeral Home, Houston, Texas

3332

DOCTOR'S COPY

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TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH — BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS

MEDICAL CERTIFICATION

VS-112, REV. 1/58

STATE OF TEXAS		CERTIFICATE OF DEATH		STATE FILE NO.	
1. PLACE OF DEATH			2. USUAL RESIDENCE (Where deceased lived. If institution: residence before admission)		
a. COUNTY Harris		a. STATE Texas		b. COUNTY Harris	
b. CITY OR TOWN (If outside city limits, give precinct no.) Houston		c. LENGTH OF STAY in l. b. Life		c. CITY OR TOWN (If outside city limits, give precinct no.) Houston	
d. NAME OF (If not in hospital, give street address) HOSPITAL OR INSTITUTION 4500 Silverbell, Stall #11			d. STREET ADDRESS (If rural, give location) 5411 Laurel Creek		
e. IS PLACE OF DEATH INSIDE CITY LIMITS? YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>			e. IS RESIDENCE INSIDE CITY LIMITS? YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>		f. IS RESIDENCE ON A FARM? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3. NAME OF DECEASED (Type or print)			4. DATE OF DEATH		
(a) First JAMES		(b) Middle STANTON		(c) Last DREYMALA	
4. DATE OF DEATH Found 8-8-73					
5. SEX Male	6. COLOR OR RACE White	7. Married <input type="checkbox"/> Never Married <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Widowed <input type="checkbox"/> Divorced <input type="checkbox"/>	8. DATE OF BIRTH September 14, 1959	9. AGE (In years last birthday) 13	IF UNDER 1 YEAR Months Days 13
10a. USUAL OCCUPATION (Give kind of work done during most of working life, even if retired) Student		10b. KIND OF BUSINESS OR INDUSTRY School		11. BIRTHPLACE (State or foreign country) Houston	
12. CITIZEN OF WHAT COUNTRY? U.S.A.					
13. FATHER'S NAME James Douglas Dreymla			14. MOTHER'S MAIDEN NAME Barbra Elaine Zorman		
15. WAS DECEASED EVER IN U.S. ARMED FORCES? (Yes, no, or unknown) No		16. SOCIAL SECURITY NO. Un-available		17. INFORMANT <i>James Dreymla</i>	
18. CAUSE OF DEATH [Enter only one cause per line for (a), (b), and (c).] PART I. DEATH WAS CAUSED BY: IMMEDIATE CAUSE (a) Asphyxia due to strangulation.					INTERVAL BETWEEN ONSET AND DEATH
Conditions, if any, which gave rise to above cause (a), stating the underlying cause last.					
DUE TO (b)					
DUE TO (c)					
PART II. OTHER SIGNIFICANT CONDITIONS CONTRIBUTING TO DEATH BUT NOT RELATED TO THE TERMINAL DISEASE CONDITION GIVEN IN PART I(a)					19. WAS AUTOPSY PERFORMED? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
20a. ACCIDENT <input type="checkbox"/> SUICIDE <input type="checkbox"/> HOMICIDE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		20b. DESCRIBE HOW INJURY OCCURRED. (Enter nature of injury in Part I or Part II of Item 18.) Strangled.			
20c. TIME OF INJURY found Hour Month Day Year UNK 8 8 73					
20d. INJURY OCCURRED WHILE AT WORK <input type="checkbox"/> NOT WHILE AT WORK <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		20e. PLACE OF INJURY (e.g., in or about home, farm, factory, street, office building) #11 4500 Silverbell, Stall		20f. CITY, TOWN, OR LOCATION COUNTY STATE Houston Harris Texas	
21. I hereby certify that I attended the deceased from found on 8-8-73 and last saw the deceased alive on 8-8-73 . Death occurred at 8-8-73 m. on the date stated above, and to the best of my knowledge, from the causes stated.					
22a. SIGNATURE <i>Joseph A. Jachimczyk, M.D.</i>			22b. ADDRESS 209 Courthouse Houston, Texas		22c. DATE SIGNED 8-23-73
23a. BURIAL, CREMATION, REMOVAL (Specify) Burial		23b. DATE August 16, 1973		23c. NAME OF CEMETERY OR CREMATORY Forest Park East Cemetery	
23d. LOCATION (City, town, or county) Harris County, Texas		24. FUNERAL DIRECTOR'S SIGNATURE <i>George Fiddle #6592</i> Funeral Home Forest Park			
25a. REGISTRAR'S FILE NO.		25b. DATE REC'D BY LOCAL REGISTRAR		25c. REGISTRAR'S SIGNATURE	

AMENDMENT TO MEDICAL CERTIFICATION OF CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS

3332

PART I. INFORMATION CONCERNING DECEASED AS SHOWN ON ORIGINAL DEATH CERTIFICATE			
NAME OF DECEASED James Stanton Dreymla		DATE OF DEATH Found 8-8-73	
PLACE OF DEATH (found) 4500 Silverbell, Stall #11, Houston, Texas		STATE FILE NO. (IF KNOWN)	
PART II. MEDICAL CERTIFICATION			
18. CAUSE OF DEATH [Enter only one cause per line for (a), (b), and (c).] PART I. DEATH WAS CAUSED BY: IMMEDIATE CAUSE (a) Asphyxia due to strangulation.			INTERVAL BETWEEN ONSET AND DEATH
Conditions, if any, which gave rise to above cause (a), stating the underlying cause last.	DUE TO (b) _____		19. WAS AUTOPSY PERFORMED? YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
	DUE TO (c) _____		
PART II. OTHER SIGNIFICANT CONDITIONS CONTRIBUTING TO DEATH BUT NOT RELATED TO THE TERMINAL DISEASE CONDITION GIVEN IN PART I(a)			
20a. ACCIDENT <input type="checkbox"/>	SUICIDE <input type="checkbox"/>	HOMICIDE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	20b. DESCRIBE HOW INJURY OCCURRED. (Enter nature of injury in Part I or Part II of Item 18.)
20c. TIME OF INJURY UNK Hour: _____ Month: 8 Day: 8 Year: 73			
20d. INJURY OCCURRED WHILE AT WORK <input type="checkbox"/> NOT WHILE AT WORK <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	20e. PLACE OF INJURY (found) 4500 Silverbell, Stall #11	20f. CITY, TOWN, OR LOCATION Houston	COUNTY Harris
		STATE Texas	
21. I hereby certify that I attended the deceased from found on 8-8-73 and last saw the deceased alive on 8-8-73 . Death occurred at 8-8-73 m. on the date stated above, and to the best of my knowledge, from the causes stated.			
22a. SIGNATURE Joseph A. Jachimczyk, M.D.		22b. ADDRESS 209 Courthouse Houston, Texas	22c. DATE SIGNED 10-10-73
PART III. AFFIDAVIT			
STATE OF TEXAS			
COUNTY OF Harris			
BEFORE ME ON THIS DAY APPEARED THE PERSON WHO SIGNED THE MEDICAL CERTIFICATION IN PART II ABOVE WHO ON OATH DEPOSES AND SAYS THAT PART II ABOVE IS A TRUE AND CORRECTED STATEMENT OF THE CAUSE(S) OF DEATH OF THE PERSON NAMED IN PART I ABOVE.			
		SIGNATURE OF AFFIANT Joseph A. Jachimczyk	
		SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME THIS THE 11th DAY OF October , 19 73	
		NOTARY PUBLIC IN AND FOR Harris COUNTY, TEXAS	

VS - 174. REV. 1/60

AUTHORIZATION TO RELEASE REMAINS

TO: HARRIS COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER
BEN TAUB HOSPITAL

Date

August 14, 1973

73-3332

GENTLEMEN:

The undersigned hereby certifies and represents that I am the legal custodian of the remains and have the right to make this authorization and that I am related to the decedent as indicated below. The undersigned further agrees to hold your firm as indicated above and Forest Park Funeral Home harmless from any liability on account of said authorization.

It is our desire and request that you release the personal effects and remains of JAMES S. DREYMALA to Forest Park Funeral Home for further arrangements.

We assure you that our coming to Forest Park Funeral Home is a voluntary action on our part and strictly in accord with our own desires. There has been no solicitation or effort made by any representative of their company to influence us to make this decision.

Signature

Address

Relation

James Dreykala
5411 Laurel Creek
Father

JOSEPH A. JACHIMCZYK, M.D., J.D.

FORENSIC PATHOLOGIST
ATTORNEY AT LAW
CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER



228-8311

EXT. 671 (DAY)
EXT. 212 (NIGHT)

OFFICE OF THE MEDICAL EXAMINER
OF HARRIS COUNTY

HARRIS COUNTY COURT HOUSE
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77002

May 20, 1974

A. Michael De Cesare
Private Detective
P. O. Box 1686
Atlantic City, New Jersey 08404

Dear Mr. De Cesare:

In response to your recent letter regarding George Patrick Shavaly, we have checked our files and also all the newsclippings we have concerning the mass murder case, and find no indication that this individual or his dogs were in any way connected with the discovery of the victims.

If we can be of further assistance to you, please let us know.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Joseph A. Jachimczyk". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Joseph A. Jachimczyk, M.D., J.D.
Chief Medical Examiner

JAJ:ab



A. Michael De Cesare

PRIVATE DETECTIVE

POST OFFICE BOX 1686 • ATLANTIC CITY, NEW JERSEY 08404 • TELEPHONE (609) 348-2660

NEW NUMBER-645-1825

May 11, 1974

Mr. Carroll Lynn
Chief of Police
Houston Police Department
Houston, Texas

and
Dr. Joseph Jachimczyk
Harris County Medical Examiner ✓
Harris County Court House
Houston, Texas

RE: GEORGE PATRICK SHAVLAY

Gentlemen:

Please be advised that I am conducting a investigation on the above captioned individual who may have possibly committed a crime or series of crimes in the State of New Jersey and with the knowledge of my client, I have reviewed my investigation to date with the New Jersey State Police.

I am attaching copies of the local newspaper clippings as well as a article from the Philadelphia Inquirer Newspaper and I initially called the Harris County Sheriffs Department and spoke with a Detective Gerald W. Peacock who advised that your department handled the matter of the horrible crime committed in your area together with the discovery of the bodies, accordingly, he has suggested I write directly to you and Dr. Jachimczyk.

My clients, Mrs. Marina Lee and Mr. John Lee, Jr. may be victims of possible extortion and other serious crimes committed by George Patrick Shavlay, to date, we donot know and that is the purpose of my investigation.

To begin with, my clients advise me that the subject, Mr. Shavlay approached them with the understanding that he was in a position (formerly being with the local chaper of the SPCA), to purchase true blood hound dogs from the Amarillo State Prison in Texas as he has been in contact with the dog handlers, namely, Jay Brandvik. In the purchase of these dogs, the y would donate the services of the dogs to the local police departments and would enter in the business of selling off the pups, in the future, to various police departments, accordingly, he obtained the sum of \$2,300.00 from John Lee, Jr. and later a additional sum of \$2,200.00 from Mrs. Marion Lee, the dogs arrived and there was to follow a sizeable amount of publicity through the local papers relative to the dogs and moreso it was highlighted that the dogs in question came from the Amarillo State Prison and further highlighted, as you can see in the attached news clippings, that the onwer, George P. Shavlay and his dog "Malcom" both were sent to your good state and are credited with the locating of some 17 of the 26 bodies recovered in the well known murder cases in your county.

Some time afterwards, my clients didnt receive any benefits from the animals or the business transaction and coupled together with other matters, they concluded that they may have been taken for their money.

Through a telegram sent to the Gruver State Bank on August 29, 1974 (a wire money order) for \$1,400.00 + 21.15 charges for same, I traced a one Jay Brandvick only to learn that Mr. Jay Brandvik owns the J&J Kennels Star Route Gruver, Texas.

I spoke with Mr. Brandvik on May 8, 1974 and made known to him the purpose of my inquiry, he advised that the dogs in question were never owned or used by the State of Texas or the Amarillo State Prison, he himself is not a handler for the Amarillo State Prison, the dogs in question were raised on his kennel with the expection of two (2) of the animals which were owned and sold in the deal to Mr. Shavlay, they were owned by Mr. Herby Clay. He further advised that none of the dogs in question were ever trained in Police Work and certainly werenot involved in any manner in the locating of any bodies connected with the crime committed in your county, the dogs in question were merely dogs used for blood hound breeding purposes and nothing further. The total amount paid for all the blood hounds purchased by Mr. Shavlay was in the amount of \$1,400.00 plus whatever charges were made for crating and shipping by TWA for air cargo.

Mr. Shavlay shows a receipt scribbled on scratch paper that the additional sum of \$900.00 had to be paid upon delivery of the animals at the airport, which of course Mr. Brandvik denies any such thing.

As it appears, my clients have become the victims of a possible swindle and may involve a fraud case of a considerable amount of money, merely on this case alone.

As you can see by the newspaper clippings, he has also apparently conned a entire police department based on the spread as shown in the newspaper items and apparently, this would have been his start in the future through one police de partment to another mainly based on the PAST HISTORY of the animals and his claiming the credit for locating 17 of the 26 murdered bodies in your county as were direct qoutes given to the newspaper reporter who wrote the story and whom I also interviewed about where she got the story from.

There are possibly a series of many other crimes involving this individual however, my purpose in writing to your departments were in connection with the crime committed in your county and whereas the suspect in question is claiming the credit for the locating of the 17 bodies, which I understand isnot so.

I would appreciate receiving a answer from your departments stating to us as to whether or not the subjects statements are true or false and I have in turn already advised the Division of New Jersey State Police that I was proceeding ahead with requesting said information and would deliver same to them upon receipt together with my investigation file.

Thanking you for your co-operation in this matter.

Very truly yours,

A. Michael De Cesare

AMDC:md
encl: various newspaper clippings.